Shri Kachwai was a dedicated political and social worker and associated with various organisations connected with the welfare of labourers. He was imprisoned several times in connection with political movements. A widely travelled person, he worked hard for the upliftment of weaker sections of the society.

An active parliamentariar, Shri Kachwai made valuable contribution to the proceedings of the House and served as Member on various Parliamentary Committees of the House.

Shri Kachwai passed away at Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh on 21 April, 1996 at the age of 63 years.

Shri Ram Swarup was a Member of Third to Fifth Lok Sabha representing Robertsganj Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1962-77.

Earlier, he had been a Member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1952-57

A dedicated political and social worker, Shri Ram Swarup was associated with various organisations connected with the welfare of the working class. He worked hard for upliftment of down-trodden and weaker sections of the society.

He took keen interest in the proceedings of the House and was a Member of Estimates Committee during 1970

Shri Ram Swarup passed away in New Delhi on 2 May, 1996 at the age of 70 years.

Shri Prakash Koko Brahm Bhatt was a member of Ninth Lok Sabha representing Baroda Parliamentary Constituency of Gujarat during 1989-91.

Earlier he was a member of Gujarat Legislative Assembly during 1985-89 and Vice-President, Zila Panchayat, Vadodara in 1987

Shri Bhatt took keen interest in Parliamentary proceedings and served on a number of Parliamentary Committees including the Committee on Subordinate Legislation and Consultative Committees attached to Ministries.

Shri Prakash Koko Brahm Bhatt passed away on 11th May, 1996 at an early age of 45 years.

We mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

12.40½ hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

12.42 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

The Arbitration and Conciliation Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 11 of 1996) promulgated by the President on 26-3-1996 etc.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following papers :

(1) A copy each of the following Ordinance (Hindi and English Versions) under article 123 (2) (a) of the Constitution :

(i) The Arbitration and Conciliation Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 11 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 26th March, 1996 together with a corrigendum thereto in English Version only.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3/96]

(ii) The Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscelianeous provisions (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 12 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 26th March, 1996 together with a corrigendum thereto in English Version only.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4/96]

(iii) The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 13 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March, 1996 together with a corrigendum thereto in English Version only.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5/96]

(iv) The Employees provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1996 (No 14 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 6/96]

(v) The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 15 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March, 1996 together with a corrigendum thereto in English version only.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7/96]

(vi) The Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 16 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8/96]

(vii) The Depositories (Second) Ordinance, 1996 (No. 17 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March, 1996 together with a corrigendum thereto in English Version only.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9/96]

(viii) The Supreme Court and High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 18 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March, 1996 together with a corrigendum thereto in English version only.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10/96]

(ix) The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1996 (No. 19 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 11/96]

(x) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Second) Ordinance, 1996 (No. 20 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 27th March, 1996 together with a corrigendum thereto in English version only.

[Placed in Library. See No LT12/96]

(xi) The Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996 (No 21 of 1996) promulgated by the President on the 25th April, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 13/96]

(2) A copy of the Corrigendum (English version only) to the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996 (No. 2 of 1996) dated the 5th January, 1996* published in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 14/96]

(3) A copy of the Corrigendum (in English version only) to the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 1996 (No. 3 of 1996) dated the 5th January, 1996* published in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT15/96]

(4) A copy of the Corrigendum (in English versions only) to the Building and other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Ordinance, 1996 (No. 4 of 1996) dated the 5th January, 1996* published in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 16/96]

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* The Ordinances were laid on the Table of the House on the 27th February, 1996

(Interruption)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSHI (Howrah) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am rising on a specific point of order. Articles 86 and 87 of the Indian Constitution provide the right to the President to address both the Houses of Parliament and Rules 16 and 17 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha decisively decide the scope and opportunity for discussing and debating on the President's Address. Since that is not in the List of Business for the day, I would like to raise a very important matter here. A wrong signal had already gone to the entire nation today in the reference of the Presidential speech on the issue of cow protection and on matters relating to a very sensitive zone of the entire India. I personally feel that the Home Minister who is present here must categorically state that these things do not mean total ban on cow slaughter. This includes a serious question on the country at this hour. Unless it is categorically clarified in the first moment of the Session ... *(Interruptions)* Though articles 86 and 87 give the power to the President to address both the Houses of Parliament yet nothing should be said in contrary to the spirit of the Preamble to the Constitution which emphatically speak of secular and democratic Government of the nation to perform within the parameters of the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE (South Calcutta) : Sir, I walked out of the President's Address in protest against this ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSHI : Sir, unless this is clarified, it would have a serious repercussion...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is a question of secularism in this country. *(Interruptions)* India is a secular country... *(Interruptions)*. In protest against this, I walked out of the President's Address.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Well, hon. Members, a copy of the President's Address has just now been laid on the Table of the House.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is most unfortunate.

MR. SPEAKER : The Motion of Thanks on the President's Address would come and it is that time which would be an appropriate time to discuss about the President's Address.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSHI : Sir, if something goes wrong, then they would have to take the responsibility....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have given the ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Home Minister is here. He has noted it down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have an announcement to make.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have already given the ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mamataji, I have already given my ruling. I have an important announcement to make.

(Interruptions)

12.45½ hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: SITTING OF LOK SABHA

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that as Muharram will be now observed on Wednesday, the 29th May, 1996 instead of Tuesday, the 28th May, 1996, the sitting of the House fixed on the 29th May, 1996 may be cancelled and in lieu thereof the House may sit on Tuesday, the 28th May, 1996.

12.47 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 27, 1996/Jyaistha 6, 1918 (Saka).